THE VALLEY STAR

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 27 SAGINAW, MICHIGAN JUNE 11, 1971

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Second Annual Pageant Is Held

The Second Annual Miss Rhomania Pageant was held on Saturday evening, June 5, at the Diplomat Auditorium, by the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. (Gamma Psi Sigma Chapter). A ceiling of suspended streamers, flowered trellises, huge paper flowers on the walls, and the evening breeze from the open balconies helped to make this one of the most beautifully decorated parties of the season.

Miss Vivian Conway

This annual program is to benefit the scholarship fund of the local sorority chapter, and Miss Rhomania receives not only a crown, but a scholarship as well. The members of the adult group are all college graduates, and their main objective is to promote the value of college education among the young.

Miss Rhomania is chosen from among what is called the "Rhoer" group, the youth element of the sorority. By Saturday evening, the field had been narrowed to two contestants: Miss Debra Beane, senior at Bay City Central, and Miss Vivian Conway, senior at Buena Vista High.

Guests arriving were greeted first by the uptight, danceable music of Eastern Broome and the Sweepers. Later, the program got under way with welcoming remarks from Basileus Idella White, and continued with the inspired voice of Henry C. Stephens, who sand "Summertime."

The highlight of the evening was the introduction of the Court, which included: Elaine Williams (Buena Vista High), Debra Beane (Bay City Central), Linda Almond (Buena Vista High), Vivian Conway (Buena Vista High), Mary Matthious (Buena Vista High), and Diane Williams (Buena Vista High).

The seniors among this group were given beribboned awards, and then the announcement was made that the title of Miss Rhomania, awarded on the basis of academic and other achievements, would belong to Miss Vivian Conway, daughter of Mrs Rosa Conway. Wearing her crown, purple robe, and carrying a dozen yellow roses, Miss Rhomania was presented to the audience, while Henry Stephens sang a song called "Miss Rhomania."

Concluding the program, Mrs Idella White introduced the members of the sorority itself, and also the Philos, a sister group, who are also deeply interested in the education of the young.

Special recognition must be given to those responsible for the planning of the program – they are, Oena McCray, Stella Pearson, Joyce Nixon, and Patricia Scott. This committee, as members of Sigma Gamma Rho, provided an evening that was not only entertaining, but significant as well. The Gamma Psi Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho is doing a meaningful work in our community, and deserves the support of all education-minded citizens.

Comedies For Summer

Three Broadway comedies will be presented this summer in the Saginaw Valley College Summer Theater by the Valley Theater Associates, a tri-city amateur theater group. VTA season ticket holders will also be admitted free to four musical programs at the college.

The first play, "Any Wednesday," will be presented June 24-27 at p.m. Muriel Resnik is the author of the comedy which involves a millionaire businessman, his naive mistress, hoodwinked wife, and an irate victim of his wily business practices. Jane Fonda starred in a film version of the Broadway hit.

Sam and Bella Spewack's "My Three Angels," is scheduled for July 15-18. Based on a French play by Albert Husson, the plot evolves around the good deeds of three escaped convicts who manage to patch up a messed-up-household. Humphrey Bogart and Peter Ustinoff appeared in the Hollywood production of the comedy.

The final play, August 5-8, is "The Rainmaker" by Richard Nash. The comedy takes place during a paralyzing drought in the American West when a father and his two sons try to marry off the daughter.

The musical concerts scheduled for the summer are included in the theater season tickets. The Youth for Understanding Concert Band will perform June 29 at 8 p.m. in Doan Center. The YFU Chorale will present a concert July 7 at 8 p.m. in the Center. On July 13 Billy and the Re-Bops will perform a jazz concert in the summer Theater. The new-music

See COMEDIES, P-7

A Big Hand For Saginaw

DEMENE HALL

Mrs Thelmond Page is a native of Detroit who has recently become a resident of the Saginaw area. Her broad smile and bright eyes greet you with zest and authority. There are many citizens of the Saginaw Community who have already become well acquainted with Mrs Page and her work. Since her arrival to Saginaw, Mrs Page has been employed at the Saginaw County Mental Health Board. It was not Saginaw's quiet atmosphere or illustrious and exciting social life that brought Thelmond Page here. It was her awareness of the need our community has for her qualified services that prompted her visit. She has accepted a position with Saginaw's Drug Abuse Program. Mrs Page has extended her hand to us and if we, as a community with dire need of her aid, do not meet that hand halfway then we should really examine what we're doing for ourselves.

Thelmond Page is part of a six member staff that devotes hours and scores of constructive energy to aid individuals that are near or already in the clutches of drugs. They are also working to prevent any further use of harmful drugs. The Drug Abuse Program services all of Saginaw and outer lying areas such as Bridgeport, Chesaning, Buena Vista, Carrollton plus many, many more. The major concern of the program now is working with schools. They're taking the time to educate children about the very dangerous and often times fatal results of drug using. Some of the many jobs Mrs Page performs are distributing films, speaking and accompanying speakers to various schools. This proves to be an everyday job too. Not only does she devote hours to this project but she'll even give up her own personal time to talk to you if she can.

Though the drug abuse program is a fairly competent one, Mrs Page and her staff feel the need for improvements. Attempts to bring about these improvements are already underway. The major improvement that must be made is with the community. We have got to be educated and become aware of the many facts about drugs. Why people fall into an addiction to drugs? How people get access to drugs? Why children begin taking drugs at seven years old and younger? Mrs Page and her staff are qualified and willing to answer all of these questions and more. All you have to do is be concerned enough to ask. "There is a lack of community commitment and everyone just keeps passing the buck whenever we ask for help," states Mrs Page. "We have got to use the strength and potential of the people." We do need community education to enlighten the public about addiction, pushers and dangers we contend with. The Drug Abuse staff plans to extend their program during the summer months. They will be arranging mobil drug centers to accomodate interested citizens that wish to learn all they can about our drug problem. There are plans to construct a Drug Abuse Council that will involve the leadership of the Saginaw Community. Plans for a drug program centered around a Crisis Center located somewhere in the city are underway immediately.

Mrs Thelmond Page has several excellent ideas to help curtail the drug problem in our area. She is not only able but willing and very qualified (with a B.A. in Social Work from the University of Detroit), to extend her services and facilities to any interested party. Her office is located at 120 N. Michigan and her phone number is 793-0027. Throughout the next few months we will be hearing more from Mrs Page but there is no reason why you cannot phone her now for information that will help us all tomorrow. Think about it.

Mrs. Page talks of some of the happy moments when she sees one of her patients walk away from drugs.

Mrs. Page tells about the growing number of drug users.

Compassion Key To 'Life's Traps'

Life for some, can be nothing but one tragic happening after another. After too many of life's bummers, some people may decide to give up precious life. This is the trap. They must not let it envelop them into a life of misery or one of complete depression. When your whole world blows up and there is no place to turn, what do you do?

Do not withdraw from society. No matter if your loss was something more cherished to you than anything else in this world. Face up to your loss. Probe deep into your inner self and find the reasons for your loss. Then you will see that there are personalities inside you which helped you to lose what you cherished. Then change these faults which you have never seen before. These faults are usually there from the lack of the one thing all people are afraid to show, compassion.

Compassion is the key to to the trap of life. After the suffering and the sorrow are over, and your life seems doomed to one of tragic loneliness, you must have the power to overcome the obstacles and renew life with a new attitude. To return from the living dead is not easy. Trying to find something to replace what you lost will be harder than the actual loss. Compassion for your fellow man will help to bridge the gap. Then knowing why the inner you lost the first time, will find you more happiness than you really lost.

When you start to find this new light, there will be times when you'll want to bum out and return to the world of gloom. This is where compassion will save you. Do not attempt to return to your old self once you have acquired the new. Look at the old self first. Look very deeply! You will find that the new you is a better person than the one who lost everything in life's trap the first time.

When your mind can comprehend the transition that you have passed through, the trap of life will never again close its cold steal jaws upon your world.

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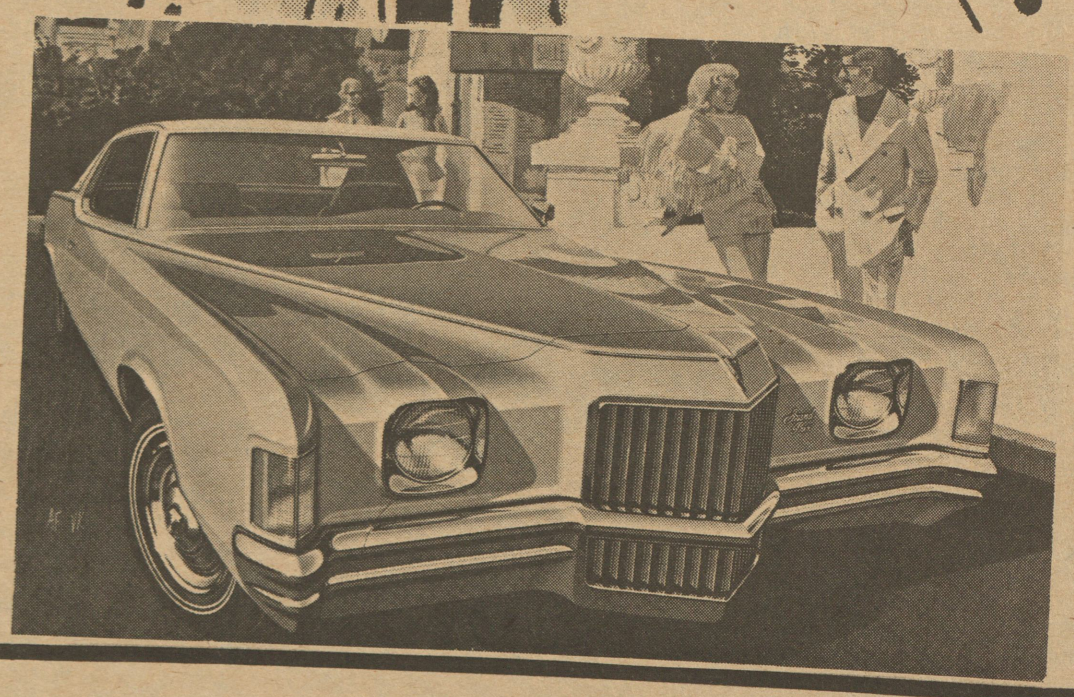

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Design Department Added To SVC

A Department of Design has been added to the Fine Arts Program at Saginaw Valley College, Dr William H. Capitan has announced. The Design Department joins the Art Department, Theater Department, and Music Department in the Fine Arts Program.

Three courses of a proposed 18-course design curriculum will be open to students this fall. The two-year design program is part of a four-year bachelor of arts program with a major in design. Majors are expected to take 42 hours of design in addition to basic art, business, psychology, and science courses to complete their degrees.

Those courses starting this fall are Technical Drawing (art as used by industry, science, and technology), Publication Design (the integration of type and art in the design of publications – from copy to finished form), and Advertising Design (the preparation and production of advertising in the various media).

Dr Captain said the design curriculum will be divided into three areas: advertising design, product design, and housing design. Students choosing advertising will concentrate on preparation and production of advertising materials in the various commercial media including print, radio, film, and television.

Product design students will explore plastics and other manufacturing materials used in designing contemporary furniture, containers, and other commercial products. The housing design program is intended as a preparatory course in the field of building materials and construction-unit design. Students concentrating in this area will be prepared to work with architects, contractors, and others in the home construction industry.

Dr Capitan said many of those enrolling in the Design Department will be tricity designers who wish to complete bachelor's degrees in their field. The three programs offered by the Design Department are not offered at any other institution in this area.

The faculty for the Design Department is being drawn from practicing designers in the area who are familiar with current trends and materials. Capitan said the Design Department, being one of the most "practically-oriented" curricula at the College, will directly benefit area businessmen and manufacturers.

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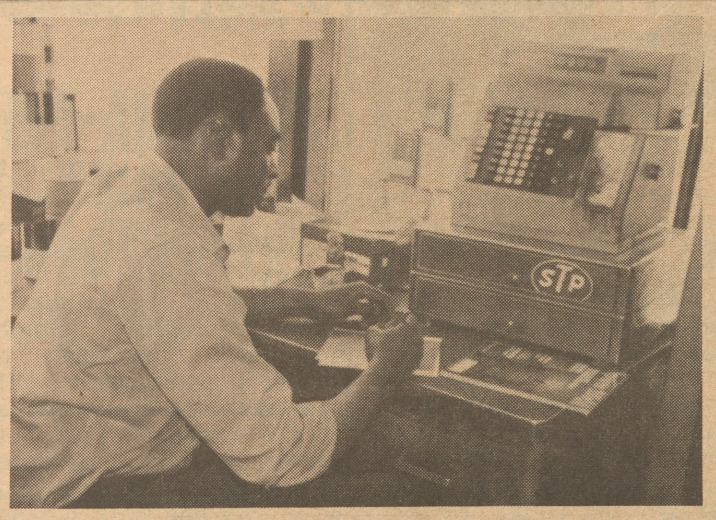

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WEDNESDAY: 6 p.m. Prayer Meeting – 7 p.m. Bible Study.

THURSDAY: 6 p.m. Nurses Guild (2nd) – 6 p.m. Young Adult Choir Rehearsal (every Thurs.).

SATURDAY: 4 p.m. Senior Usher Board – 6 p.m. Gospel & Male Chorus Rehearsal (1st And 3rd).

SUNDAY: 7 p.m. BYF (2nd & 4th) – 4-5 p.m. (2nd & 4th) Young Matrons.

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Christ Community Church Scene Of Marriage Rites

Miss Carolyn Moore and Luterry Pruitt, Jr. were united in matrimony on Saturday, June 5, 1971, at Christ Community Church. The Rev. William D. Aldridge officiated. The bride is the great-niece of Mrs Thelma Woods, and the groom is the son of Mr and Mrs Luterry Pruitt, Sr.

A lovely, intimate setting was provided as Christ Community was decorated with yellow gladiola and orange mums. The bride's attendants, matron of honor Mrs Joyce McQueen, sister of the groom, and bridesmaid Mary Aldridge, wore lime and orange colored gowns and carried bouquets of yellow rosebuds. The bride's white lace gown had a bell-shaped hoop skirt and scalloped neckline, and a satin bow held her scallop-edged chapel train. Her elbow-length veil was secured by a pearled crown. She carried a bouquet of yellow rosebuds, baby's-breath, and lilies-of-the-valley.

Music was provided by Mrs William Aldridge, who sang "O, Promise Me," and "Because," as well as providing the traditional wedding march.

Attending the groom were Kenneth Harris, acting as best man, and groomsman Harold Pruitt, brother of the groom. Kenneth Pruitt, youngest brother of the groom, was ring-bearer for the ceremony. The bride was given in marriage by her brother, Melvin Moore.

Following the ceremony, the bride tossed her bouquet from the steps of the church; it was caught by a young daughter of the minister, who said happily, "I just had to catch this one."

Wedding guests were greeted by the bride and groom and their families at a reception at the 4-H Club Hall at Saginaw Fairgrounds. Among the guests were Franklin Gary, Mr and Mrs Jack Chapis, Mr and Mrs Don Scott, Robert Flores, Mrs Angeline Vernon, Lou Oates, Mr and Mrs Ron Schneider, Mr and Mrs Tom Mercer, Rev. William DeBrodt, and many other friends and relatives of the couple.

After a light supper of chicken salad, relishes, and orange punch, for which the groom expressed his thanks to the members of Christ Community Church who volunteered their services, the reception proceded, including many ancient wedding traditions. First, the bride and groom danced to "their" song, "Never Can Say Good-Bye." Then, a chilled bottle of champagne was brought to the head table, and after a struggle, Mr Pruitt uncorked it and locked arms with his new bride for the traditional wedding toast.

Then Terry and Carolyn joined hands to cut their four-tiered red-and-white wedding cake, and camera bulbs flashed as Carolyn gave Terry the first bite. After posing for pictures in front of a long table piled with wedding gifts, they announced it was time for the tossing of the bride's garter. And such a gathering of handsome young bachelors as is not seen this side of Muscle Beach collected around the bride's chair. Despite Carolyn's noble effort, the garter was snatched from the air by one of the more steady-handed guests.

Carolyn Moore Pruitt, faced in her youth with the necessity of supporting herself, became one of the first students to participate in the Neighborhood Youth Corps, "and one of the most successful," says a co-worker.

At age sixteen, she began a clerical helper, and progressed to the position of full-time secretary to Jerry Baker, Director of Research and Evaluation of the Board of Education. She now acts as secretary in charge of a department of eight full-time staff members.

Carolyn has been on her own since she was fifteen years old, Ron Schneider, of the Saginaw Board of Education, told the Valley Star. Experiences that would destroy most young people, he said, have made Carolyn the strong person that she is today. Although he has acted as teacher to Carolyn, by virtue of his position at the Board of Education, he said, "As far as I'm concerned, I'm the one who has learned from her, from working with her, in terms of overcoming adversity and hardship." He added, "She's done it all on her own," and called her, without a moment's hesitation, "the best secretary in the building."

Also in recognition of her unusual effort and her unique success, Mrs Pruitt was last month presented the Junior Achievement Award of the National Negro Business and Professional Women's Association.

Mr Pruitt is a graduate of Western Michigan University, where he majored in Business Administration. While at Western, he was Vice-President of his fraternity, Omega Psi Phi; president of the University Intra-Fraternity Council; and also captained the school's track team. He has recently been named to the Association of Outstanding College Athletes of America. Since graduation, he has held the position of program evaluator for the Saginaw Model Cities Program, and was recently named deputy administrator of the Model Cities Multi-Purpose Center.

A Kentucky honeymoon is planned, during which the couple will visit relatives of the bride. They will reside in Saginaw.

Mr. & Mrs. Pruitt stroll down the aisle after the wedding.

Terry & Carolyn hold one of the many gifts they received.

A sip of champagne.

Mr. & Mrs. Pruitt talk with Mr. & Mrs. Ron Schneider and son.

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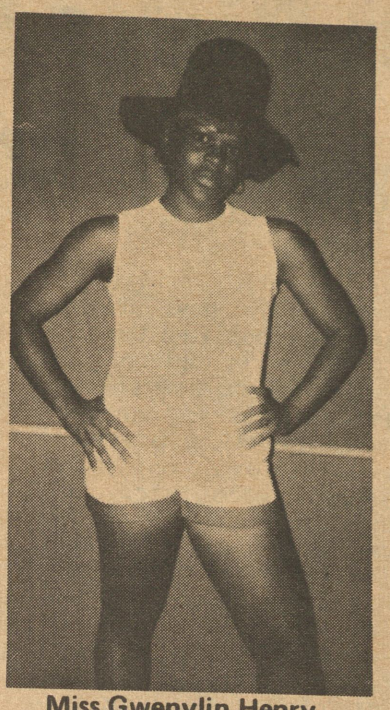

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Legion Picks New Officers For '71-'72

Call to order by incoming C. O.

Post 312 officers and members.

Aux. members left, Laura Quarles; Miss Bunny Saunders; Laura Terry; Mrs. Thomas; Mrs H. Ray; Mrs Sample and Mrs. Robinson.

On Sunday afternoon, June 5, the Saginaw American Legion Brown-Vernon Post #312 held its installation of new officers for 1971-72. Women's Auxiliary officers were also introduced at this regular monthly meeting.

The new officers, who had been elected at a previous meeting, were installed in a joint ceremony conducted by James E. Moore. This was begun with the expression of thanks, on behalf of the membership, to the outgoing commander, Ineas (Ike) Boyd, adding the hope that his loyalty and service to the Post would continue.

Then charge of office was read to the new officers, and they repeated the oath of office in unison. The names of the new officers are as follows: commander, Howard Ray; first vice-commander, Spencer Thomas; second vice-commander, Herman Bush; Financial officer, Hershey Terry; judiciary advisor, Leeodas Faulk; historian, Joshua Doakes; chaplain James E. Winston, Jr.; Sergeant-at-Arms, Hugh Armsgrong; service officer, Hosea Spencer; adjutant, Oliver W. Tucker.

New officers of the Women's Auxiliary are: president, Mrs Freddie Robinson; first vice-president, Mrs Dorothy Thomas; secretary, Mrs Hattie Ray; treasurer, Mrs Cora Atwater; second vice-president, Mrs Laura Terry; chaplain, Mrs Laura Quarles; historian, Mrs Elsie Black.

Following the installation ceremony, a meeting was held at which the new Commander presided, for the purpose of adopting new policies to be incorporated into the operation of the Post.

Brown-Vernon Post #312 is one of the most active and community-minded American Legion Posts in this area, and are to be commended for their ideals of service and patriotism.

New C.O. salutes outgoing office C.O., Ike Boyd.

Command Officer Howard Ray assumes command at Post 312.

Mr. James Moore congratulates Commander Boyd for his good service.

To Your Health

By JOSEPH C. HILL

RECENTLY IN THIS column, we carried an article that related to the serious problem that drug abuse is causing in the metropolitan area, but more attention was called to the fact that the most abused drug of all is being given little or no attention. Without question, the most abused drug is alcohol.

Alcohol in a large number of cases is not even looked upon as being a drug, and in those instances in which it is viewed as a drug, it's not with the same sense of condemnation that we view the so-called "hard drugs."

This feeling is brought about in part by the social acceptance of alcohol and drinking, the feeling that "it's the thing to do." A significantly large segment of our population would not think of entertaining socially without having something to drink on hand.

The alcoholic has many identifiable characteristics, the most notable of which is perhaps the fact that they tend to always feel the need to defend their drinking and deny that it's having any affect on their life. It is usually passed off by saying something like "I don't drink anything but beer," but when an individual drinks two or three six packs of beer a day, he's a beer alcoholic.

On the other hand, a person might say "Well, I don't drink anything but wine," but when they stay in a drunken stupor all day and half the night off wine, then that person's a wine alcoholic – or to use a gutter phrase, "a wino."

+ + +

BUT WHATEVER THE alcoholic beverage might be, we would like to call further attention to the seriousness of the problem of alcoholism in our community. I read with interest a

See TO YOUR HEALTH, P-8

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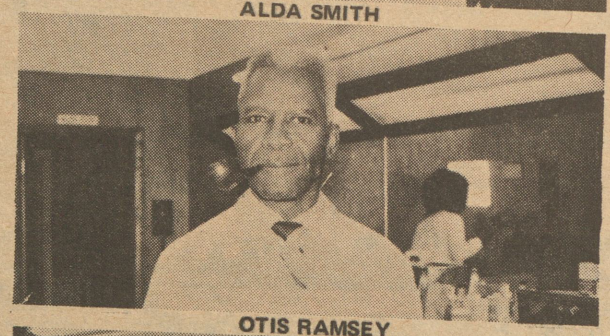

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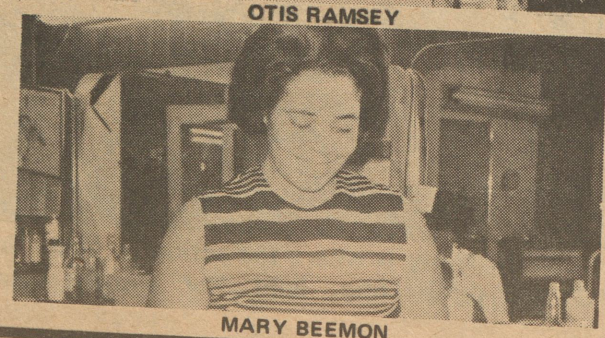

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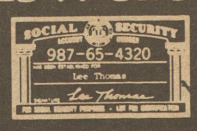
COMEDIES

Cont. From P-1

quintet was organized by Bob Myers, assistant professor of music at SVC, and by Saginaw musician Joe Freyre. The last musical event is a Chamber Music concert presented by the Friends of Music July 26 at 8 p.m. in Doan Center.

Valley Theater Associates patrons recieve two tickets to all events for $25, Frank Coopersmith, publicity chairman, said. Season memberships are $6. Single admission to the plays is $2.50 for each performance. Information on tickets is available at the SVC Fine Arts Department.

Questions and Answers



Q. I am enrolled in both parts of Medicare. If I get a routine physical checkup by my family doctor every year, will Medicare pay for it?

A. No. Routine physical checkups are not covered under Medicare.

Q. I've been getting monthly social security benefits since I was 62. I'll be 65 in March 1971. What do I have to do to sign up for Medicare?

A. There are two parts to the Medicare program. You will *automatically* qualify for the hospital insurance part without doing anything. Hospital insurance, financed through employee and employer contributions to social security during a person's working years, requires no premium payments.

The other part of Medicare is medical insurance. You should receive a form in the mail several months before you are 65 asking if you want this part of Medicare. If you want the Medicare medical insurance, complete this form and return it in the envelope furnished. This part of Medicare is financed by monthly premiums from people who sign up for medical insurance and by matching contributions from Government funds.

If you do not get the

See Q. & A., P-8

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TUESDAY – 6:00 p.m. Teachers Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Senior Ushers.

WEDNESDAY – 6:00 p.m. Mission, Senior Laymen; 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting.

THURSDAY – 6:00 p.m. Gospel Chorus.

SATURDAY – 6:00 p.m. Senior Choir; 6:00 p.m. lst Male Chorus, 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Ushers.

SUNDAY – 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 11:00 a.m. Worship Service; 6:00 p.m. Evening Service; 6:00 p.m. lst Communion.

For information contact Rev. L. Patten, 828 N. 7th Street, 755-5962.

TO YOUR HEALTH

Cont. From P-6

rather recent report from one of the safety commissions which alluded to the fact that over 50 percent of all automobile accidents were alcohol-related.

What this simply means is that to one extent or another, alcohol was involved in well over 50 percent of the automobile accidents. This is not necessarily to say that the driver was drunk, but what it is saying is that his ability to drive a car was seriously impaired.

Unfortunately, on too many occasions when we are entertaining friends, sometimes the habit is so tell them to "come on and get one more for the road," or "you have hardly had anything tonight, come on, you can take another one." But if those persons attending the social affair are indeed friends of yours and you a friend of theirs, they would be much better advised to leave liquor alone when we know that they have to drive home.

What then are some of the characteristics of an alcoholic? When do we know that a person is beginning to slip off the deep end? There are a number of things that will indicate that an individual is approaching becoming an alcoholic. For example:

(1) Where drinks begin to control the person. This is perhaps more commonly described by saying a person "can't hold his liquor." (2) When drinking begins to interfere with both job and family life. This occurs when individuals begin to miss work because of drinking or when they begin to drink on the job. It sometimes results in an individual being sent home from work because of drinking (the usual excuse here on the part of the drinker is he got "sick on the job"). All of this, of course, has its effects on family life.

(3) "Black-outs." These occur when an individual cannot recall his actions after a drinking bout. He has to ask friends what he did at the party? Who was there? What did I say, etc? (4) When a person begins to drink alone a lot, and to hide bottles around the house or in the car. (5) When an individual feels that he has to have a drink to start the day. He wakes up with the "shakes" and needs a drink to settle his nerves. This, however, usually starts his drinking pattern for the day.

(6) Among the most telling signs of approaching alcoholism is when an individual feels the need to constantly defend his drinking and denies that it's having any effect on his life.

+ + +

UNFORTUNATELY, MOST alcoholics will not seek help for their condition. This is due in part to the fact that they are not willing to admit that they are alcoholics. Hence, they will not admit that they need help.

There has been found that more and more health facilities are looking upon the alcoholic as a "sick individual." There are a number of treatment facilities in the metropolitan area. Among those that offer services of one kind or another are:

Providence hospital, Grateful Home Inc. (two locations for female alcoholics), Greater Detroit Council of Alcoholism Inc., Sacred Heart Center Inc., Salvation Army (Harbor Light), Hillcrest Residence, Sobriety House Inc., Towne hospital, North Woodward hospital, Annapolis hospital and Wayne County Comprehensive Alcoholism program.

If you have friends or relatives that you know have an alcoholism problem, you would do good to advise them to seek help at one of the aforementioned facilities.

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Q & A

Cont. From P-6

form, or if you have any other questions, call any social security office.

Q. I just turned 65 and applied for Medicare last week. I now find that I will have to go to the hospital very soon. What will happen if I do not have my card before I'm admitted?

A. You will be covered just as if you had your card. If necessary, the hospital can call the social security office to verify your Medicare coverage.

Q. I will be 65 in April. I have always been a homemaker and I have never been employed. My son tells me I should apply for Medicare. Can I get Medicare?

A. Yes. You should apply for Medicare 3 months before you are 65. Since you have never worked under social security yourself, you will not be eligible for the hospital part of Medicare unless your husband qualifies for social security or railroad retirement benefits. But, you *can* sign up for the medical insurance part of Medicare even if you cannot get hospital insurance protection.

Q. I work for a company that has an excellent pension plan. Why must I also contribute to social security?

A. Unfortunately not all workers are covered by private pension plans, and many workers don't stay with the same employer long enough to qualify for the company pension. You must contribute to social security—and your employer must match your contribution—to ensure that there are enough funds to provide benefits to the largest number of people at the lowest cost to them and their employers.

Social security does not discourage private retirement plans. Rather, it was envisioned as a base to which additional protection under private plans could be added.

According to Social Security Administration studies, 34 percent of the total income of Americans 65 and older comes from social security benefits. Private group pensions account for 5 percent. Earnings and income from assets provide most of the remainder.

Q. I have worked under social security for 20 years. The base salary on which I pay social security contributions seems to go up every couple of years. Why is it necessary to keep raising the amount of earnings on which these contributions are paid?

A. One of the objectives of the social security program is to provide monthly cash benefits that are related to the worker's previous level of earnings. To keep up with the rise in the earnings level, the contribution and benefit base must be raised from time to time.

If the base on which you pay social security contributions remained constant, more and more workers would have earnings above the creditable amount and their social security insurance protection would relate to a smaller and smaller part of their full earnings. Eventually, almost everyone would collect a flat social security benefit completely unrelated to actual earnings.

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